Amendments in the Claims: (struck-through parts deleted and underlined parts added)

1. (currently amended) A ~~support assembly for supporting a bell-shaped bird feeder~~ bird feeding assembly, said assembly consisting of:

a substantially solid mass of bird seed;

a base having an upper surface, a lower surface and a peripheral edge;

a pair of legs, each of said each of said legs having a first and a second end, each of said first ends being attached to said base such that each of said legs extends upwardly from said base, each of said legs being arced such that said second ends abut each other and an inner perimeter edge of said legs is defined;

a cover being attached to an outer perimeter edge of said legs such that said cover extends over said base and

a coupler ~~being adapted for removably securing the bird feeder~~ being attached to said pair of legs, ~~wherein the bird feeder may be attached to said legs such that the bird feeder is suspended between the legs~~ said coupler being removably securable to said bird seed such that said bird seed is suspended between said legs.

2. (original) The support assembly according to claim 1, wherein said inner perimeter edge has a generally bell-shaped configuration.

3. (original) The support assembly according to claim 1, wherein said coupler comprises a hook being attached to and extending downwardly from a juncture of said second ends of said legs.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The support assembly according to claim [4] 1, said cover including a pair of plates joined along a common edge, each of said plates being angled downward from said common edge.

Claim 6 (cancelled)

7. (original) The support assembly according to claim 1, further including a pair of ridges, each of said ridges being attached to and extending upwardly from said base, each of said ridges being positioned adjacent to said peripheral edge, said ridges being positioned oppositely with respect to each other on said base.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The support assembly according to claim [4] 1, further including a securing member being attached to said cover and extending upwardly therefrom, said securing member being adapted for releasably securing said cover to a tether.

10. (currently amended) A ~~support assembly for supporting a bell-shaped bird feeder~~ bird feeding assembly, said assembly consisting of:

a base having an upper surface, a lower surface and a peripheral edge;

a pair of legs, each of said each of said legs having a first and a second end, each of said first ends being attached to said base such that each of said legs extends upwardly from said base, each of said legs being arced such that said second ends abut each other and an inner perimeter edge of said legs is defined, said inner perimeter edge having a generally bell-shaped configuration;

a coupler ~~being adapted for removably securing the bird feeder~~ being attached to said pair of legs, said coupler comprising a hook being attached to and extending downwardly from a juncture of said second ends of said legs, ~~wherein the bird feeder may be attached to said legs such that the bird feeder is suspended between the legs~~ said coupler being removably securable to a solid mass of bird seed such that the bird seed is suspended between the legs;

a cover being attached to an outer perimeter edge of said legs such that said cover extends over said base, said cover including a pair of plates joined along a common edge, each of said plates being angled downward from said common edge;

a pair of ridges, each of said ridges being attached to and extending upwardly from said base, each of said ridges being positioned adjacent to said peripheral edge, said ridges being positioned oppositely with respect to each other on said base; and

a securing member being attached to said cover and extending upwardly therefrom, said securing member being adapted for releasably securing said cover to a tether.